IAP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 31 MAY 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

D.J. MARSH et al.

Art Unit:

Int. Appln. No:

PCT/US2004/040616

Case No.: 21457P

Int. Filing Date:

6 December 2004

Serial No.:

(To be assigned)

Filed:

May 31, 2006

Examiner:

For:

INHIBITION OF VOLUNTARY ETHANOL CONSUMPTION

WITH SELECTIVE MELANOCORTIN 4-RECEPTOR

AGONISTS

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

The above identified case is a PCT application entering the US National Phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 and Article 39(1)(a) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the following amendments prior to prosecution of the subject application.

Any additional fees associated with this Amendment may be charged to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper. Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

DATE OF DEPOSIT May 31, 2006

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV660604172US

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS

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BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL
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DATE May 31, 2006